

## Discussion Summary

### Central Northeast Council of Neighborhood Associations

April 6, 2006

6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Atwater Neighborhood City Hall

#### Attendance

CNAC Members: James Arbertha, Mike Barushok, Tom Fox, James Thompson, Isabelle Elder, Paul Oberg, Paul Kimble, Dorothy Nave, Isabelle Elder, Paula Givens, Erma Markham

Staff: Dave Barber, Scott Wadle, Virdena Gilkey

Other: Dr. Glen Day, Evelyn Tisdale, Lisa Thomas, Willie Burton, Darryl Carrington

Presenter: WPD Deputy Chief Stolz

The CNAC meeting was called to order by President James Arbertha. The meeting began with an opening prayer by Dorothy Nave. The discussion summary for March was then approved by the CNAC members.

#### New Business

##### Youth Involvement Update:

Mr. Arbertha let the CNAC members know that garden spots were ready and planting would begin April 22nd at the following locations: 1325 N Ohio, 1317 N Madison, and 25th at Erie. The project is being funded by Nehemiah, a non-profit organization, with youth provided by CDC. Nehemiah's money will provide t-shirts for the workers. Excess produce will be sold to a local grocer. As a surprise for the youth, money collected from the sale of the produce will be divided among them at the end of the season.

The Nehemiah organization also buys vacant lots and abandoned homes in the area to be fixed up and sold, helping to improve neighborhoods. Anyone may join this organization by paying a nominal lifetime membership fee.

##### Prisoner Reintegration Project:

Deputy Chief Stolz explained how the prisoner reintegration program works to help parolees become productive citizens once they are released from prison. Areas where the program has been in effect show that the percentage of parolees that re-offend is greatly reduced. The program provides intensive training to combat illiteracy, help parolees with housing and job issues.

Speakers are available to help educate the public about this program with presentations at neighborhood meetings. The contact person is Sally Frey at 630 N. Topeka.

Chief Stolz also gave a presentation on the challenges being faced in Beat 44, including gang activity. Statistics were presented that show areas that lead to crime issues; low percentage of home ownership, high percentage of homes being rented and high percentage of vacant homes.

Problem solving ideas and the weed and seed program were also presented to show how to help these neighborhoods.

#### Next Meeting

Thursday, May 4, 2006 at the Atwater Neighborhood City Hall at 6:30 p.m.